

for apportionment among States of funds appropriated under former section 779b of this title.

Section 779d, Pub. L. 88-309, § 6, May 20, 1964, 78 Stat. 198; Pub. L. 94-485, § 1(4), Oct. 12, 1976, 90 Stat. 2326, provided for approval of projects for funding, and payment of benefits, under this chapter.

Section 779e, Pub. L. 88-309, § 7, May 20, 1964, 78 Stat. 199, related to working conditions on projects funded, and to disposal of property acquired, under this chapter.

Section 779f, Pub. L. 88-309, § 8, May 20, 1964, 78 Stat. 199, authorized promulgation of rules and regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Repeal effective Oct. 1, 1987, see section 310 of Pub. L. 99-659, set out as an Effective Date note under section 4101 of this title.

CHAPTER 11—REGULATION OF LANDING, CURING, AND SALE OF SPONGES TAKEN FROM GULF OF MEXICO AND STRAITS OF FLORIDA

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| Sec.
781. | Taking or catching, in waters of Gulf or Straits of Florida, commercial sponges of less than prescribed size, and landing or possession of same. |
| 782. | Sponges of less than prescribed size; possession prima facie evidence. |
| 783. | Punishment for violations of law; liability of vessels. |
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| 785. | Enforcement of law prohibiting taking of sponges of specified sizes; employment of Coast Guard vessels and Customs Service employees. |

§ 781. Taking or catching, in waters of Gulf or Straits of Florida, commercial sponges of less than prescribed size, and landing or possession of same

It is unlawful for any citizen of the United States, or person owing duty of obedience to the laws of the United States, or any boat or vessel of the United States, or person belonging to or on any such boat or vessel, to take or catch, by any means or method, in the waters of the Gulf of Mexico or the Straits of Florida outside of State territorial limits, any commercial sponges measuring when wet less than five inches in their maximum diameter, or for any person or vessel to land, deliver, cure, offer for sale, or have in possession at any port or place in the United States, or on any boat or vessel of the United States, any such commercial sponges.

(Aug. 15, 1914, ch. 253, § 1, 38 Stat. 692.)

§ 782. Sponges of less than prescribed size; possession prima facie evidence

The presence of sponges of a diameter of less than five inches on any vessel or boat of the United States engaged in sponging in the waters of the Gulf of Mexico or the Straits of Florida outside of State territorial limits, or the possession of any sponges of less than the said diameter sold or delivered by such vessels, shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of the provisions of this chapter.

(Aug. 15, 1914, ch. 253, § 2, 38 Stat. 692.)

§ 783. Punishment for violations of law; liability of vessels

Every person, partnership, or association guilty of a violation of the provisions of this

chapter shall be liable to a fine of not more than \$500, and in addition such fine shall be a lien against the vessel or boat on which the offense is committed, and said vessel or boat shall be seized and proceeded against by process of libel in any court having jurisdiction of the offense. (Aug. 15, 1914, ch. 253, § 3, 38 Stat. 692.)

FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

Admiralty and maritime rules of practice (which included libel procedures) were superseded, and civil and admiralty procedures in United States district courts were unified, effective July 1, 1966, see rule 1 and Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims, Title 28, Appendix, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

CROSS REFERENCES

Forfeitures and seizures—

Jurisdiction, see sections 1333, 1355, and 1356 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

Proceedings, see section 2461 of Title 28.

§ 784. Jurisdiction of prosecutions

Any violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be prosecuted in the district court of the United States of the district wherein the offender is found or into which he is first brought.

(Aug. 15, 1914, ch. 253, § 4, 38 Stat. 692.)

§ 785. Enforcement of law prohibiting taking of sponges of specified sizes; employment of Coast Guard vessels and Customs Service employees

The Secretary of Commerce shall enforce the provisions of this chapter, and he is authorized to empower such officers and employees of the Department of Commerce as he may designate, or such officers and employees of other departments as may be detailed for the purpose, to make arrests and seize vessels and sponges, and upon his request the Secretary of the Treasury may employ the vessels of the Coast Guard or the employees of the Customs Service to that end.

(Aug. 15, 1914, ch. 253, § 5, 38 Stat. 692; Jan. 28, 1915, ch. 20, § 1, 38 Stat. 800; 1939 Reorg. Plan No. II, § 4(e), eff. July 1, 1939, 4 F.R. 2731, 53 Stat. 1431; Aug. 4, 1949, ch. 393, §§ 1, 20, 63 Stat. 495, 561; 1970 Reorg. Plan No. 4, eff. Oct. 3, 1970, 35 F.R. 15627, 84 Stat. 2090.)

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

“Secretary of Commerce” and “Department of Commerce” substituted in text for “Secretary of the Interior” and “Department of the Interior” in view of: creation of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Department of Commerce and Office of Administrator of such Administration; abolition of Bureau of Commercial Fisheries in Department of the Interior and Office of Director of such Bureau; transfers of functions, including functions formerly vested by law in Secretary of the Interior or Department of the Interior which were administered through Bureau of Commercial Fisheries or were primarily related to such Bureau, exclusive of certain enumerated functions with respect to Great Lakes fishery research, Missouri River Reservoir research, Gulf Breeze Biological Laboratory, and Trans-Alaska pipeline investigations; and transfer of marine sport fish program of Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife by Reorg. Plan No. 4 of 1970, eff. Oct. 3, 1970, 35 F.R. 15627, 84 Stat. 2090, set out in the Appen-